

Book 1 Chapter 9

VERITY

I don't know how long I have been staring at the hotel sign. I couldn't move. I didn't want to.

I wanted to see him, but the pain of everything he had said last night came ooding back like a tidal wave.

A lone tear escaped.

I looked in my rearview mirror, making sure no one was behind me, and thank god no one was.

I looked back at the sign. I can't do this.

Why should I go to someone who didn't even apologize for leaving this morning? He didn't even ask how I was, either.

Pain radiated through my chest, and I knew I had to turn back.

I put the car in reverse and moved back a few yards. I stopped and looked behind me as I placed the car into gear, made a U-turn in the mind of the road, and headed back to my at.

Relief lled my veins as I drove back to my at.

He will come to my at if I don't show up, I thought.

I couldn't stay there; I needed to leave.

My mind was racing. I knew I needed to get away. I had to leave. I needed a clear getaway from him, to start over and try to forget him, I thought, even though the last part would take a while due to the feelings I had for him.

I drove back in no time and pulled up outside my at.

I climbed out of the car and walked straight into the at building.

I went to my door and opened it. I walked in and closed the door behind me with my foot. I looked around the room as my heart started to beat faster in my chest. I knew I was doing the right thing. Glancing at the clock and realized I had an hour before I should be at the hotel. I needed to be gone before then.

I glanced around and walked over to the kitchen counter. I remove my phone from my pocket, not remembering that I had put it there earlier.

I knew I had to contact a few people. There was Kelly and my landlord, also Betty too.

The rst person was Betty. I had to quit my job, but what excuse was I going to give her? I thought. I never spoke about my family to her as she never asked me anything personal. She only talked about work and never bothered to interact with me. I picked up my phone and dialed her number. I knew she wouldn't answer as she knocks her phone off during the evenings. I was going to leave a message.

I pressed her number, and it went straight to her voicemail. "Leave a message after the beep," she murmured into the phone.

I sighed as the beep came, and I spoke. "Hey, Betty," I said. "I know this is short notice, but I have to leave. I had a phone call from a family member that my father was sick, and I had to leave. I am sorry for leaving you in the lurch, but he needs me to go back home to look after him. I'm sorry again." I ended the call, feeling so sick that I had to use my father as an excuse.

I knew it was wrong to lie, but I knew she wouldn't understand.

The following person was my landlord. I knew I couldn't ring him as he was with his family and would be in bed.

I pulled up his messages and sent him a quick text, telling him the same as Betty.

I have been living here for nearly a year, and he has never bothered to know anything about me. He comes the rst Friday of every month for the rent and leaves.

I sent the message and went to Kelly. I stared at Kelly's messages, knowing I couldn't lie here. She would see past it. I started to type, telling in a short version about what happened.

"Hey, I'm sorry I haven't replied to you. I have been dealing with some things and have decided to leave town for a while. I need to go as you know about the guy I have been hooking up with; well, he has done it again," I wrote, wincing at the fact that Kelly knows about him leaving me without a word and how he acts around me. "I can't stay after last night. He mentioned that he would be looking for his mate and that this would be the last time I saw him. I should have listened to you before, but I didn't. I had feelings for him and didn't want to leave him alone. I know it's all on me, but now I am hurting. I have decided to leave for a few days. I will message you when I am settled and my plan."

I quickly read through the message and sent it. I placed the phone down on the counter and turned around.

I knew I didn't need to take the furniture as it belonged to my landlord. I only dealt with him, but when I came to look at this place, he mentioned that it was already furnished, and I was happy to take it as I had nothing, only two bags of clothes.

I entered my bedroom and went to the closet to pull out my two bags. I quickly placed them on the bed and started to pack them away. In between the clothes, I quickly went into the bathroom to put all my toiletries into a bag and then to my makeup counter to place them all in.

I wasn't very tidy about it. I rammed everything I owned into the bag, including all my technology.

I didn't have many clothes as I always wore the same thing.

It didn't take me too long to nish packing.

I quickly grabbed my bags and left the bedroom, placing them down by the front door. I walked back into the bedroom, stripped my bed, and placed it all in a black sack. I had two beddings, and I wasn't going to leave them behind now.

I quickly checked around my bedroom for things I might have left. I quickly placed all my towels into the black sack and walked out of the room.

I knew nothing was in the cupboards as I was meant to go shopping earlier.

I walked over to my phone and noticed two messages.

The rst one was from my landlord. "Ok," he said. "Your rent is paid up for two weeks. Let me know if you are coming back, as I will need to nd a new tenant."

I sighed and messaged him back, telling him I would let him that I wasn't coming back for a while and that he could start looking. I moved on to the following message, and it was from Kelly. I opened the message and started to read it. I couldn't help but smile.

"Hey girl," it read. "I don't be like that. I knew you had feelings for him; I just wanted you to be happy. Take all the time to get yourself better. Make this an adventure, but you must do one thing for me. Keep in touch and once you are settled, let me know, and I will come and visit you."

I smiled as a lone tear escaped. I was about to reply when another message came through, and my heart sank when I saw the name.

Axel.

I didn't want to look. I knew he was messaging to nd out if I was coming over. I quickly looked at the clock and realized that it was nearly midnight.

I needed to leave.

I glanced back at my phone and opened his message.

"Are you coming over, gorgeous?" it read. "Or should I come to you?"

I felt anger wash over me, and I launched my phone at the nearby wall. I watched in slow motion as my phone broke into pieces as it hit the wall and then to the ground.

I couldn't take anymore. I needed to x my broken heart.

I had Kelly's number in my diary on my laptop, so that wasn't a problem, and I didn't need my landlord and Betty's number anymore as I wasn't planning on coming back any time soon.

I closed my eyes as I tried to calm myself down.

After a few moments, I opened my eyes and looked around the room.

I knew I had to pack up my car quickly so I could leave, which I planned on doing next.